

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 and 12-14 were previously pending in the application. By the Amendment, Claims 1 and 12 are currently amended, new Claims 15-17 have been added, and Claims 2-10, 13 and 14 remain unchanged.

Claims 1-5, 7, 8, and 12-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Heflin, et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,306,121).

Claim 1 recites a refrigerator, comprising: a refrigerator housing; a compressor mounted to said housing; a damped spring configuration mounting said compressor to said housing and connecting at least one connecting point of said compressor to a connecting point of said refrigerator housing; and said spring configuration having at least one individual spring element and at least one additional oscillation-enabled element configured to oscillate at a different resonant frequency than that of said individual spring element, *wherein the individual spring element and the oscillation-enabled element have mutually different spring constants k1, k2.*

The cited art fails to teach or suggest a spring configuration having an individual spring element and an oscillation-enabled element which have *mutually different spring constants k1, k2.* Heflin, et al. teaches a compressor 11 having a plurality of flanges or feet wherein the compressor is supporting plate 13 provided with mounting holes 14. Heflin, et al. further teaches and discloses a first or upper group of isolator studs 16, having a sandwich configuration, which attach between the mounting holes 14 in the plate 13 and the mounting openings in the associated feet 12 of the compressor. Heflin, et al. also teaches a second group of isolator studs situated between the plate 13 and a

base 19 of a condenser unit 10. However, Helfin, et al. fails to teach or disclose that the isolator studs 16 and 18 have *mutually different spring constants k1, k2*.

For these and other reasons, the cited art does not disclose the subject matter defined by independent Claims 1, 12, and 15. Therefore, Claims 1, 12, and 15 are allowable. The remaining claims depend from Claims 1, 12, and 15 and are allowable for the same reasons and also because they recite additional patentable subject matter.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, entry of the present Amendment and allowance of Claims 1-5, 7, 8 and 12-17 are respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this amendment, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned. If an extension of time for this paper is required, petition for extension is herewith made.

Respectfully submitted,



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